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REPORT NO.

CD NO.

COUNTRY

Czechoslovakia/China

DATE DISTR. 23 January 1953

SUBJECT

V.I. Lenin Works, Pilsen: Dispatch of War Material NO. OF PAGES 1
and of Lathes to Communist China

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DATE OF INFO.

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. The Chinese Military Mission, under General HO Sin, was permanently established at Plzeň (Pilsen) as of 15 November 1952. The objective of the mission is to handle the dispatch of war materiel from the V. I. Lenin (Skoda) Works to China.
2. It will also dispatch the new 180-ton lathes designed by constructor Ladislav Kalina, for which he received the state prize. These lathes are capable of handling pieces 15 m. long and weighing 200 tons. The head measures 3.15 m. These new lathes will be taken to China, where they will be used in war materiel factories.
3. The arrival of the Chinese military mission was very badly received by the workers at Plzeň. There were vigorous demonstrations in the shops, and protests against foreign control in the factory. Workers demanded that Czech specialists accompany the lathes to China without giving away the secret of the Kalina system of construction.
4. The Chinese also showed great interest in the giant S.10 lathe, capable of handling pieces 26 m. long, construction of which has been considered top secret. No decision has yet been reached by the Czechoslovak Government on this request. New protests on the part of the workers are feared if this lathe also is turned over to the Chinese.
5. Because of the hostility of the workers, the government was obliged to halt the importation of a considerable number of Chinese workers who were destined for the Plzeň factory. Several thousand of these workers are currently encamped in temporary barracks at Dziedzice near Cieszyń on the Polish border, awaiting the permission of the Czechoslovak Government to continue their trip.

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